

REMARKS

The present invention relates to an antique style decorative sheet and to an antique style decorative laminate.

In the Office Action of July 27, 2007, it is , first of all, appreciated that the Examiner withdrew several earlier-made objections and rejections in view of Applicant's Amendment filed April 16, 2007. However, a new rejection (said to have been necessitated by Applicant's Amendment) was made under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on U.S. Patent 6,183,842 in view of JP 62-198455 further in view of JP 9-109333, as set forth in Paragraphs 3-4 at page 2, and as explained in Paragraph 5 at pages 3-4.

However, upon reviewing the new rejection, Applicant respectfully disagrees, and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, for the reasons set forth below.

First, it is noted that the surface protection layer in JP 9-109333A is very different from that of release base layer in the presently claimed invention. Examples of the differences are set forth below.

The release base layer is peeled off before using, whereas the surface protection layer is not peeled off, but used as is.

The surface protection layer in JP 9-109333A corresponds not to release base layer, but rather to resin layer (b) 4 in Fig. 9 of the present application.

The purpose of the surface protection layer is to protect printed layer which is made on the base layer. However, the purpose of the resin coat layer 2 is to improve design properties in addition to the above-mentioned purpose of the surface protection layer.

The surface protection layer is embossed in JP 9-109333A. It corresponds to processing on the surface of the resin layer (b). However, the resin layer is completely scraped in the next processing, and irregular surfaces by scraping reach resin coat layer 2.

In contrast to the problems of the prior art as noted above, by laminating a transfer foil including the release base layer on the resin coat layer 2 before scraping, various types of designs can be prepared before scraping.

Gloss is more stable than that of embossed product, because the gloss of PET is transferred.

It is easy to scrape after press molding, because thin film($1-2\mu$) transfer foil can be laminated.

In view of the above, reconsideration, withdrawal of the sole remaining rejection, and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby earnestly solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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